THE AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

1-15. (canceled)

16.(currently amended): The composition of claim ~~24~~ 22, wherein said solution contains at least one million International Units of gamma-IFN/ml, as measured by (i) the ability of γ-IFN to stimulate CD64 antigen expression in cultured enriched human monocytes, or (ii) ~~the biological activity of the γ-IFN in solution and droplet form is determined by~~ the ability of γ-IFN to stimulate HLA-DR antigen expression in cultured human monocytes.

17.(currently amended): The composition of claim ~~24~~ 22, wherein said ~~solution includes mannitol as a~~ stabilizing agent comprises mannitol.

18.(original): The composition of claim 17, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount between 5-15 mM.

19.(currently amended): The composition of claim ~~24~~ 22, wherein said ~~solution includes polysorbate as a~~ dispersing agent comprises polysorbate.

20.(original): The composition of claim 19, wherein the polysorbate is present in an amount between 50-200 mg/liter weight percent.

21.(currently amended): The composition of claim ~~24~~ 22, wherein the aqueous γ-IFN solution has a viscosity at room temperature of less that 2Cp.

22.(currently amended): A liquid-droplet aerosol composition ~~for delivery to a patient's respiratory tract~~

~~(a)~~ formed from an aqueous γ-IFN solution having a known, selected γ-IFN biological activity, and comprising a dispersing agent and a stabilizing agent in an amount effective to

stabilize the γ-IFN upon aerosolization, wherein the stabilizing agent consists of a sugar, an alcohol, or an amino acid, ~~or a combination thereof, and wherein the composition does not include serum albumin, and~~

~~(b)~~ wherein the ~~aqueous droplets are characterized by~~ liquid-droplet aerosol composition has

~~(a)'~~ ~~a narrow particle distribution such that at least 80% of the droplets have a size~~

(a) defined-size droplet particles in a selected size range~~, wherein the selected size range is~~ selected from the group consisting of (i) less than 1 micron, (ii) 1-3 microns, (iii) 3-5 microns, (iv) 5-10 microns, and (v) greater than 10 ~~microns,~~ microns;

~~(b)'~~(b) a γ-IFN biological activity substantially the same as that of the aqueous γ-IFN solution; and

~~(c)'~~(c) a γ-IFN molecular size distribution substantially the same as that of the aqueous γ-IFN solution.

23.(currently amended): The composition of claim 22, wherein at least 95% of the ~~droplets~~ droplet particles have a size in the selected size range.

24.(canceled)

25.(new)The composition of claim 22, wherein at least 80% of the droplet particles have a size in the selected size range.

26.(new)The composition of claim 22, which are formed by placing the aqueous γ-IFN solution against a plate having defined-size openings or pores, and forcing the aqueous γ-IFN solution through the openings or pores.

27.(new)The composition of claim 22, wherein the selected size range is 3-5 microns.

28.(new)The composition of claim 22, wherein the selected size range is 5-10 microns.